

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully traverses the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and 8 over U.S. Patent 6,131,782 to DeSilva

As recited, e.g., in claims 1 and 5, among other things, the claimed roof rack includes roof rails which compressively contact a holder movable relative to the roof rails upon movement of a contact member relative to a cam member directly generated by engagement of a projection portion with a convex portion until reaching a stopping position when a handle is in a second position, and a shaft penetrates holes in a central portion of the cam member and the contact member.

In contrast, DeSilva discloses only a roof rack having rails 12, 14, a cross rail 26, and a stopper. The stopper includes a cam member 66, contact members 74,78, a spring 62, and a holder 60. Movement of the holder 60 generates a rotation of contact members 74,78. Engagement of projection portion 76 of contact member 74 with a convex portion 72 stops rotation of the contact members 74,78. The movement of the holder 60 is not directly generated by engagement of the projection portion 76 with the convex portion 72, as recited, e.g. in claims 1 and 5.

At least for this reason DeSilva does not disclose each and every element recited in the claims, and hence does not anticipate the claims under § 102(b).

Entry of the amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 in order to place the claims in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge
any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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